

WELCOME, GUESTS! We are honored to worship God with you today. If you would like to become a member of Fernwood Baptist Church, you are invited to speak with the minister following the worship service or by emailing matt@fernwoodchurch.org. If you need pastoral care, please call 864-582-7467.

SO GLAD YOU ARE HERE! Text "hello" to (864) 501-0585, for more information and to let us contact you.

Guest Information	
Date _____	
Name _____	
Address _____	
City _____	
State _____ Zip Code _____	
Home Phone # _____	
Cell # _____	
Best Time to Call: Morning Afternoon Night	
Email Address _____	
Your Age Group:	
___13-18 ___19-29 ___30-39 ___40-49	
___50-59 ___60-69 ___70 & Older	
Children:	
Name _____ Age _____	
Name _____ Age _____	
Name _____ Age _____	
Please check the applicable:	
___ First time guest ___ Returning guest	
___ Would like information about the church	
___ New to the area ___ Would like a visit	
___ Would like to know more about becoming a Christian	
___ I am a guest of _____	
___ Prayer Request _____	

Our Vision

is to be Christ to each other and our community – doing justice, loving mercy and walking humbly with our God.

Choose How You Give

Give easily and securely...

1. Offering envelopes during the service or by mail.
2. Set up *bill pay* straight from your bank.
3. On our website www.fernwoodchurch.org
4. Directly through our online giving <http://onrealm.org/FernwoodBaptist/give/now>
5. Text from your phone: 73256 then keyword "fernwood" and dollar amount and follow the instructions.

CHILDREN'S EXTENDED SESSION WORKERS

Dec. 10 – Bailey Erps Dec. 17 – Laura Hicks Dec. 24 – Peggy Beard
Dec. 31 – Diane Blackburn Jan. 7 – Peggy Beard Jan. 14 – Amy Said

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

Reservation deadline is Monday at Noon.

You can call 864-582-7467, email the office@fernwoodchurch.org or fill out the registration form on the information table in the concourse and place it in the basket.

FAMILY CAROLING AND CHILI DINNER - Sunday, Dec. 17th, 4PM-7PM

Meet at the church in the dining hall. We will go caroling and then return to share chili. Open to all church family. Please sign up on the information table.

GUEST MUSICIAN - We are delighted to have Anne Graff as a guest musician today. She is an Adjunct Accompanist at Converse University. Anne moved to Spartanburg in 2020 from New York City where she held the position of Assistant Conductor and Accompanist for the Youth Chorus of Trinity Church Wall Street. She has continued to work for Trinity remotely as a teaching artist, as well as a guest teacher for special programs and events. Anne holds a BS in Biology from Tufts University and an MA in Piano Performance from Hunter College, where she also worked as an accompanist for voice students. She lives in Spartanburg with her husband, Steven Graff, and their son, Forest. Welcome, Anne!

Wachet Auf © 1977 Lorenz Publishing Co.

A Candle is Burning; Words © 1986 Sandra Dean; Music 1887 James R. Murray
Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming; Words 1993 Jim Miller, © 1995 Chalice Press;
Music 1830 Joshua Leavitt's *The Christian Lyre*, harm. 2008 Donald Murphy,
© 2010 Celebrating Grace, Inc.

The Best Gift of All © 1990 New Spring Publishing Inc.

The People Who in Darkness Walked; Words and harm. 1998 David W. Music,
© 2000 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

The First Noel/ Pachelbel's Canon © 1990 Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry; Words Charles Coffin;

Music adapt. 1609 Michael Pretorius, harm. 1904 George R. Woodward

Old 100th 1551 Genevan Psalter

Angels, from the Realms of Glory © 1995 Broadman Press

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Masks are not required while in the building. For those who wish to continue wearing a mask while in the sanctuary, there is a designated place on the side nearest the baptistery. There are signs on the pews.

All Members of Fernwood Baptist Church, Ministers

Mrs. Lee Anne BailieDirector of Family and Communication Ministries
Mrs. Marcia HarrisAssistant Music Associate
Rev. Matthew K. JohnsonSenior Pastor
Rev. Dean Newkirk.....Office Administrator
Mrs. Rebecca Turner.....Music Associate
Dr. Stafford Turner..... Director of Music Ministries
Mrs. Mary Helen Wessinger..... Financial Administrator
Mr. Don Williams.....Custodian
Rev. Dr. P. Randall Wright Pastor Emeritus



Sunday, December 10, 2023
Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday

9:45am - Sunday School (in-person and online)

11:00am - Worship (in-person and online)

Wednesday

5:30pm - Wednesday Night Supper

6:15pm - Bible Study for Adults (in-person and online)

6:15pm - Children's Missions, Music & More

7:15pm - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

200 Fernwood Drive, Spartanburg, SC 29307
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864-582-7467 ~ Fax: 864-582-7477

Website: fernwoodchurch.org

Email: office@fernwoodchurch.org

Facebook: [@fernwoodbaptistchurchspartanburg](https://www.facebook.com/fernwoodbaptistchurchspartanburg)

Instagram: [@fernwoodbaptist](https://www.instagram.com/fernwoodbaptist)

The Lord's Day

The Lord's Day December 10, 2023

The Welcome & Announcements Rev. Matthew K. Johnson

The Passing of the Peace Matt Johnson
One: May the peace of Christ be with you.
All: And also with you.

The Processional Philipp Nicolai
arr. Benton Price
Wachet Auf
Marcia Harris, organ

Lighting the Candle of Peace The Hydes

The Carol of Peace MUELLER
A Candle is Burning
Verse 2

A candle is burning, a candle of peace,
A candle to signal that conflict must cease.
For Jesus is coming to show us the way,
A message of peace humbly laid in the hay.

†The Hymn of Praise, No. 85 PLEADING SAVIOR
Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming

1. Christians all, your Lord is coming, drawing near in holy birth.
Ring the bells and sound the trumpets, let your music fill the earth.
Dance and move to show God's glory;
kneel and pause to hear God's word.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Rise and let your songs be heard.

2. Christians all, your Lord is coming, calling you to serve in deed.
See the ones who hurt and suffer, hear their cry and act with speed.
Set all selfish ways behind you. Purge your hearts of sinful greed.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ in you will meet their need.

3. Christians all, your Lord is coming, he will rise up from the dead.
Lift the cup, of sin forgiven; bless the host and eat his bread.
Mend the ways where peace is broken, give yourselves to true Shalom.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Dwell as one in church and home.

4. Christians all, your Lord is coming, hope for peace is now at hand.
Let there be no hesitation, walk in faith where life demands.
Bear the word that God has given; share the birth that stirs your soul.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ will come and make you whole.

The Poinsettias Betsy Ball

The Special Music Paula Carpenter and Russell Mauldin
arranged by Dean Newkirk
The Best Gift of All
Dean Newkirk

Candles glow from frosted windows, rooms are filled with twinkling lights.
There's a manger scene, boughs of evergreen, someone is singing Silent Night.
And ev'ry gift my heart remembers, of easy laughter, dear old friends,
Precious faces and smiles, the dancing eyes of a child, all remind me once again...
*Refrain: That the best gift of all is Jesus, his love knows no season or place;
you can see him in the firelight, reflected on each face.
Though we cherish the blessings of Christmas, his love seems especially near;
the best gift of all is Jesus, all through the year.*

Christmastime is like a window all the world looks through once a year,
but the light they find as they look inside is shining ev'ry day we are here.
No need to wait until December for all his promise holds in store;
ev'ry moment we live, we'll know the peace he can give
as we find this truth once more...*Refrain*

The Hebrew Bible Reading Marijane Rhinebold
Isaiah 40:1-8 NRSV
(Pew Bible, pages 581-582)
One: The Word of God for the people of God.
All: Thanks be to God.

†The Hymn of Adoration, No. 84 BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN
The People Who in Darkness Walked

1. The people who in darkness walked have seen a great light shining,
and those who in the shadows live have seen the new day's dawning:
*Refrain: For unto us a Child is born, to us a Son is given,
and on his shoulders he shall bring to earth the peace of heaven.*

2. His name will be called Counselor, the everlasting Father,
the Mighty God, the Prince of Peace whose reign will be forever:
Refrain

3. This child will reign on David's throne and over David's kingdom
with justice and with righteousness, with God's eternal wisdom:
Refrain

The Pastoral Prayer Matt Johnson

The Anthem Traditional English Carol
Johann Pachelbel
The First Noel/Pachelbel's Canon
Sanctuary Choir
Marcia Harris, organ; Anne Graff, piano

The first Noel, the angels did say,
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay.
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel. Born is the King of Israel.

For all to see there was a star
shining in the east beyond them far.
And to the earth it gave great light,
and it continued both day and night.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel. Born is the King of Israel.

The Gospel Reading Matt Johnson

Mark 1:1-8 NRSV
(Pew Bible, page 812)
One: The Good News offered for all.
All: Thanks be to God.

The Sermon Matt Johnson
Just the Beginning

†The Hymn of Response PUER NOBIS
On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

1. On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh;
Come, then, and listen, for he brings good news about the King of Kings.

2. Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin and furnished for a guest within,
And let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.

3. Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
and lift us up to fall no more;
O make your face on us to shine, and fill the world with love divine.

4. All praise to you, eternal Son, whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore and Holy Spirit evermore.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving Penny Ginn

†The Doxology OLD 100th

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him, above ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Pastoral Benediction Matt Johnson

The Recessional Henry T. Smart
arr. Anne A. Davis
Angels, from the Realms of Glory
Marcia Harris, organ

†Please stand, as you are able.

Staff Love Gift - Would you consider a "Love Offering" to our staff? You can give online "Staff Love Gift" or by mailing to the church office. P.O. Box 7058, Spartanburg, SC 29304 or by placing it in the offering plate on Sundays. Deadline is next ***Sunday, December 17.***

Angel Tree & Christmas Bulb Gift Bags Deadline - Please return your angel tree gifts and Christmas bulb gift bags and place under the tree by this Friday, December 15th, so they can be distributed to the families and Mobile Meals recipients.

A Service of Lessons and Carols - During the service on December 17th, the Music Ministry of Fernwood will present *A Service of Lessons and Carols*. We hope you will be able to attend!

CBF Global Missions - When you give to the offering for Global Missions, you are helping to equip the church to do God's will in a broken world, a world in need of The Great Shepherd, Jesus Christ.